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COUNTRY	Czechoslo	vakia			DATE DISTR. 1	5 March 1954
SUBJECT	BJECT The Slovak Chemical Works, National Enterprise, in Likier				NO. OF PAGES	3
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- 1. Slovak Chemical Works, (Slovenske lucobne zavody), National Enterprise, in Likier /N 48-34, E 19-57 derived its products from dry distillation of wood. Until the middle of 1950 the management was located in Bratislava and supervised two plants: in Hnusta /N 48-35, E 19-58 and Likier. After that date, the management in Bratislava was abolished and the Likier factory became the main plant, with the Hnusta factory as its branch plant. Until the beginning of 1950 the Slovak Chemical Works was subordinate to the Slovak Chemical Works (Slovenske chemicke zavody) in Bratislava and through it to the Czechoslovak Chemical Works with headquarters at Stepanska 30 in Prague II. From the beginning of 1950, because of the reorganization of the Czechoslovak chemical industry, the Slovak Chemical Works (Slovenske lucobne zavody) was subordinate directly to the Ministry of Chemical Industry. A chemical factory in Slovenska Lupca /N 48-46, E 19-17 was incorporated into these works and made subordinate to the main Likier plant in January 1950.
- 2. The Slovak Chemical Works Likier and Hnusta plants produced acetone, acetic acid, wood tar, formaldehyde, creosote, turpentine, acetates, wood alcohol, charcoal, aluminum acetate, lime acetate, oil from wood tar, wood tar pitch, and printing inks. The production of these products proceeded at full speed, and I never heard of any difficulties in this respect. The only problem was that of getting enough manpower for felling the required trees. There were no plans for enlargement of the production facilities as of summer 1952.
- 3. The plants had their own railroad spurs. Rail connections appeared to be very good because beechwood, the main source of raw materials for these plants, was transported to the plants from surrounding forests by road and by rail.

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5. Production included the following:

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- a. Technically and chemically pure acetone produced at the plant was shipped by the plant's own tank cars for use in rubber factories, in the leather, cosmetic, lacquer, and pharmeceutical industries. Production of acetone did not meet domestic requirements. The import plan for 1953 included acetone under the category of solvents
- b. Chemically and technically pure wood alcohol was shipped in the plants own tank cars for further processing in Czechoslovakia. Smaller quantities of wood alcohol to be used as a solvent were delivered in iron barrels and glass jugs. Domestic wood alcohol production was not adequate, and it was planned to set up new plants.
- c. Wood tar, shipped from the plants in kettles, was used as an impregnation material and for insulation.
- d. Charcoal was delivered in various grades and in bulk form for further processing by the chemical industry, in iron foundries, for generators, etc. Ten thousand tons of charcoal were exported regularly each year, of which two-thirds were exported to Area V (Italy and Switzerland), about 2,000 tn. to Austria, and the remainder to West Germany and England. The latter used charcoal in her Courthold artificial silk factories. Italy used charcoal mostly as fuel and also in the production of artificial silk.
- e. Formaldehyde, in two concentrations, was shipped in aluminum tank cars, in barrels, and in glass jugs. It was used in the production of dyes, medicines, disinfectants, in the textile industry, and in the production of plastics.
- f. Chemically and technically pure acetic acid of various grades was delivered in tank cars for dyeing textiles, and for the food-stuffs and pharmaceutical industries. Production of acetic acid did not meet domestic requirements, and it was necessary to import it. It was planned to import 400 tn. in 1953, about half of which was to come from the USSR, the rest from Western Germany and from the Sterling Area.
- g. Oil from wood tar was delivered in tank cars as an impregnating agent and for ore flotation. Acetates were delivered in wooden barrels for further processing in dye plants and in the pharmaceutical industry. Pitch from wood tar (which could be shipped only during cold weather), was delivered to briquette plants and as insulation material. Small quantities of pitch were exported regularly to Bulgaria.
- h. Turpentine was delivered to Czechoslovak lacquer plants, but the production did not nearly meet domestic requirements. Two thousand five hundred tons of turpentine had to be imported, mostly from Area V and one-sixth of that amount from the USSR.
- 6. Security measures in the two plants in Likier and Hnusta were the same as in other plants. Entry was granted only on permission of the Ministry of Chemical Industry. Employees showed special passes on entering and leaving the plant. Both plants had their own guard militia.

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- 7. A new plant for dry distillation of wood was under construction in Humenne  $\sqrt{N}$  48-56, E 21-597 and was supposed to be completed by the end of the first Five Year Plan.
- 8. The factory in Slovenska Lupca was set up in 1938 by the United Chemical Works. It remained in their possession until January 1950, when it was subordinated to the Slovak Chemical Works as mentioned above. The Slovenska Lupca factory was the most modern plant in Czechoslovakia for the production of printing inks. The plant had its own boiler house and got its coal from Handlova. The plant had its own railroad spur. The plant employed about 100 workmen.

  Manager of the plant was Dr. NEUMAN, an old hand at this work. Production included: printing inks for type, litho, off-set, trichromic and Intaglio print, and steelplate printing. Products were of good quality and were delivered in tin or iron barrels to printing firms in Czechoslovakia. Part of the production was exported to Area II countries. The plant in Prague-Vysocany took care of part of the exports of printing inks.
  - 9. Security measures were the same as in other plants. There was a fence around the plant and the area was guarded. Entrance was granted only upon permission of the Ministry of Chemical Industry. Employees had to present passes upon entering and leaving the plant.

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